

## Message Text

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E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MPOL, NATO

SUBJECT: DRC MEETING OCTOBER 22: STRUCTURE OF MINISTERIAL GUIDANCE

REF: A. USNATO 5714 (NOTAL)

B. STATE 231867 (NOTAL)

C. USNATO 5100 (NOTAL)

D. USNATO 5280 (NOTAL)

BEGIN SUMMARY: DURING OCTOBER 22 DRC MEETING ON MINISTERIAL GUIDANCE,  
US REP PRESENTED RATIONALE FOR AND KEY ELEMENTS OF SECRETARY SCHLESIN-

GER'S OCTOBER 17 LETTER ON MINISTERIAL GUIDANCE TO MOD'S. DRC AGREED  
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TO ACCEPT TWO ADDITIONAL KEY ELEMENTS (A. RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN  
RESOURCES AND STRATEGY, AND B. INCREASED EFFICIENCY THROUGH RATIO-  
ALIZATION OF FORCES, ETC.) INITIALLY PROPOSED BY US REP DURING SEPT-  
EMBER 26 MEETING. END SUMMARY.

1. DURING INTRODUCTORY REMARKS TO OCTOBER 22 DRC MEETING, CHAIRMAN HUMPHREYS CITED SECRETARY SCHLESINGER'S OCTOBER 17 LETTER TO MOD'S (MISSION CIRCULATED COPIES TO DPC PERMREPS, CHAIRMAN MC AND DRC REPS BEFORE MEETING), AND ITALIAN REP'S (MACCHIAVELLI) STATEMENT TO OCTOBER 15 DRC MEETING ON TEN KEY ELEMENTS WHICH HE SAW EMERGING FROM US DISCUSSION PAPER (REF A, PARA 22), AND ASKED DRC TO CONSIDER WHETHER THESE INPUTS CALLED FOR REVISED APPROACH BY DRC TO MINISTERIAL GUIDANCE DISCUSSIONS. US REP (BGEN BOWMAN) SAID SECRETARY SCHLESINGER'S LETTER DID NOT REPEAT NOT SEEK TO ALTER THE DRC'S BASIC APPROACH AND OFFERED FOLLOWING ADDITIONAL COMMENTS/SUPPORTING RATIONALE:

A. MINISTERIAL GUIDANCE SHOULD INCLUDE LONG-RANGE CONCEPT FOR NATO DEFENSE AND SHOULD GUIDE ALL SEGMENTS OF NATO INCLUDING NATIONS.

B. NATO COUNTRIES ARE FACED WITH ECONOMIC DIFFICULTIES AND EXPECTATIONS OF DETENTE TOGETHER WITH INCREASING SOVIET MILITARY CAPABILITIES.

C. LONG-RANGE DEFENSE CONCEPT SHOULD PERMIT NATO TO MAINTAIN A STALWART CONVENTIONAL DEFENSE AS A MAJOR PART OF THE NATO TRIAD.

D. DR. SCHLESINGER'S LETTER TO MOD'S EMPHASIZED KEY POINTS WHICH SHOULD BE IN KEY ELEMENTS THAT DRC IS DRAFTING FOR MINISTERIAL DISCUSSION. FOR EXAMPLE, KEY ELEMENT ENTITLED RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN RESOURCES AND STRATEGY WHICH U.S. OFFERED DURING SEPTEMBER 26 DRC MEETING SHOULD INCLUDE THREE OF DR. SCHLESINGER'S POINTS: (1) RATIONALE FOR THE CONTINUED NEED FOR AN EFFECTIVE NATO DEFENSE, (2) CONTINUED EMPHASIS ON CONVENTIONAL CAPABILITY WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF NATO'S CURRENT STRATEGY, AND (3) ATTAINMENT AND MAINTENANCE OF A PERCEPTIBLE CONVENTIONAL BALANCE WITH THE WARSAW PACT WITHIN PROJECTED RESOURCE LEVELS. SECOND KEY ELEMENT OFFERED BY THE US DURING SECRET

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SEPTEMBER 26 DRC MEETING SHOULD INCLUDE: (1) INCREASED EFFECTIVENESS THROUGH RATIONALIZATION, (2) STANDARDIZATION, (3) FLEXIBILITY, (4) IMPROVED COMMON PROGRAMS, AND (5) RE-STRUCTURING OF FORCES. OTHER KEY ELEMENTS INCLUDED IN DR. SCHLESINGER'S LETTER WHICH PERTAIN TO RESOURCES AND PRIORITIES FOR FORCE IMPROVEMENTS ARE ALREADY IN THE EXISTING DRC LIST OF KEY ELEMENTS.

E. US DOES NOT SEEK TO LIMIT DECEMBER MINISTERIAL DISCUSSION TO THESE KEY ELEMENTS AND CONSIDERS THE ITALIAN LIST OF TEN CONSIDERATIONS A USEFUL CONTRIBUTION TO FRAMING THIS DISCUSSION (REF B). BOWMAN SAID DRC COULD INCLUDE MANY OF THE ITALIAN POINTS WITHIN EXISTING KEY ELEMENTS.

2. ITALIAN REP (MACCHIAVELLI) SAID THAT HIS PROPOSED LIST OF TEN KEY ELEMENTS NEED NOT REPEAT NOT SUPPLEMENT EXISTING LIST OF KEY ELEMENTS FOR DETAILED MINISTERIAL DISCUSSION IN DECEMBER, BUT THAT DRC SHOULD INCORPORATE HIS ELEMENTS IN MINISTERIAL GUIDANCE DRAFTED NEXT SPRING. MACCHIAVELLI AGAIN ASKED WHETHER EXPANDED MINISTERIAL GUIDANCE ENVISAGED FOR 1975 REQUIRED REVISION TO DPC/D(71)10 TERMS OF REFERENCE (TOR) (REF C, PARA 3). HUMPHREYS, DANISH REP (ROSENTHAL), CANADIAN REP (SHEFFIELD, AND NETHERLANDS REP (CARSTEN) RESPONDED THAT EXISTING TOR'S (DPC/D(71)10) WERE SUFFICIENTLY BROAD TO ENCOMPASS EXPANDED MINISTERIAL GUIDANCE. MC REP (GEN TOMMASINI) ASKED WHETHER DIRECTING 1975 MINISTERIAL GUIDANCE TO NATIONAL AUTHORITIES AS WELL AS MNC'S REQUIRED A CHANGE TO EXISTING TOR'S. HUMPHREYS, SUPPORTED BY CARSTEN (NETHERLANDS) SAID THAT MINISTERIAL GUIDANCE WAS INHERENTLY APPLICABLE TO NATIONS AS WELL AS NATO MILITARY AUTHORITIES.

3. BELGIAN REP (TAYMANS) REFERRED TO DISCUSSION PAPER FURNISHED TO HIS MOD BY THE US WHICH CALLED FOR A THREE PERCENT ANNUAL INCREASE IN DEFENSE SPENDING AND SAID THIS WAS INCONSISTENT WITH DRC AGREEMENT DURING SEPTEMBER 26 MEETING THAT PREFERRED PERCENTAGE WOULD BE ALTERED TO REFLECT SPECIAL CASES LIKE BELGIUM (REF D, PARA 2). U.S. REP RESPONDED THAT US DISCUSSION PAPER WAS WRITTEN BEFORE SEPTEMBER 26 DRC DISCUSSION AND THAT DRC WOULD PRESUMABLY MODIFY RECOMMENDATIONS PRESENTED TO MINISTERS AS EARLIER AGREED.

4. UK REP (MACDONALD) ASKED WHY KEY ELEMENTS FOR MINISTERIAL  
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DISCUSSION INCLUDE FLEXIBILITY AND RATIONALIZATION SINCE BOTH ARE SUBJECTS OF SEPARATE STUDIES TO BE FURNISHED MINISTERS. U.S. REP ANSWERED THAT INCLUSION OF THESE ITEMS IN KEY ELEMENTS WILL NOT REQUIRE LENGTHY MINISTERIAL DISCUSSION ON EACH ITEM WHICH DUPLICATES THAT RESULTING FROM SACEUR FLEXIBILITY AND EWG RATIONALIZATION STUDIES, BUT WILL PROVIDE A USEFUL VEHICLE FOR MINISTERIAL ENDORSEMENT OF THESE AND OTHER VERY IMPORTANT PROGRAMS DESIGNED TO ACHIEVE GREATER EFFICIENCY IN NATO DEFENSE EFFORTS.

5. IN SUMMARY REMARKS, HUMPHREYS AID: (A) DRC CONSENSUS WAS TO ADD TWO NEW KEY ELEMENTS PROPOSED BY THE US TO THE ORIGINAL FIVE AND (B) IS WOULD SOON CIRCULATE DRAFTS WHICH SUMMARIZE DRC DISCUSSIONS ON RESOURCES AND WARNING TIME ALTERNATIVES FOR MINISTERIAL CONSIDERATION.  
MCAULIFFE

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